## AFFINITY-BASED CLUSTERING OF VECTORS FOR PARTITIONING THE COLUMNS OF A MATRIX

## Abstract of the Disclosure

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A method and computer program product for partitioning the columns of a matrix A. The method includes providing the matrix A in a memory device of a computer system. The matrix A has n columns and m rows, wherein n is an integer of at least 3, and wherein m is an integer of at least 1. The method further includes executing an algorithm by a processor of the computer system. Executing the algorithm includes partitioning the n columns of the matrix A into a closed group of p clusters, wherein p is a positive integer of at least 2 and less than n, wherein the partitioning includes an affinity-based merging of clusters of the matrix A, and wherein each cluster is a collection of one or more columns of A.